

THE LATEST NEWS
BY TELEGRAPH FROM ALL PARTS
OF THE WORLD.

VISIT OF PROMINENT SENATORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE RICHMOND AND ALLEGANY RAILROAD DISTRESSING ACCIDENT FROM CAVING EARTH; SIX LIVES LOST—THE MANHATTAN-BANK ROBBERY; ARREST OF JOHN POPE—OBITUARY—REPUBLICAN CAUCUS—OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS—THE STRIKING MINERS IN OHIO—THE TENNESSEE STATE DEBT—ELEVATED RAILWAY HANDS IN NEW YORK ON A STRIKE—SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTION TROUBLES—AN EFFORT TO DECLARE THE RAILROADS AND OHIO RAILROAD CHARTER FORFEITED—JAIL BURNED IN ARKANSAS—PREPARATIONS IN ST. PETERSBURG TO RESIST THE PLAGUE—FULL DEBATE OF THE RECENT CATASTROPHE TO TAKE PLACE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS—THE BRITISH TROOPS IN AFRICA—THE GERMAN EMPEROR TO OPEN THE REICHSSTAG IN PERSON, &c., &c.

Washington, February 11.—There was a conference here to-day of the directors and friends of the Richmond and Alleghany railroad, and Mr. Parsons, who attended it, left for your city this evening. After talking over the condition and prospects of this important improvement it was understood that Senators Jones, of Nevada, and Blaine, General Ewing, and others prominently connected with it, will go to Richmond Friday night or Saturday morning to look into the condition of affairs there. In the party I am informed there will be well known western senators not heretofore mentioned as taking any special interest in the scheme. It is understood that the president of the road should not be elected until it is made an assured fact by the removal of every hindrance now in its way. In fact, it is hardly probable that either Senators Blaine or Jones, or Mr. Keane of California, now prominently mentioned in connection with the presidency, would be willing to accept under any other circumstances.

After last night's Democratic caucus it is generally conceded that an extra session is inevitable. I asked an Illinois Republican to-day of experience, and with the best sources of Republican information, if he thought there would be an extra session, and he replied, "If you will put your question differently I will answer it." I did as he suggested, and gathered from him that the Republican senators and representatives intend to oppose the proposed amendments to the bitter end; that this, he believed, of course would defeat the appropriation bills. He did not think, however, that an extra session would be called right away, as Democratic congressmen, he said, desired, but it would be deferred until June, or perhaps until September. I suggested that the want of money would compel an earlier call; but he thought that the judges and department officials could do as well without money as members of Congress. He did not think it at all unlikely that Mr. Hayes would call an executive session of the Senate immediately after the 4th of March. On this point a Democratic congressman remarked that the President had no reason to be illiberal to the Democrats, as he cannot run his Administration without Democratic support, and must rely hereafter on Democratic senators, and not on Conkling & Co., to confirm his appointments. "The declaration of Mr. Thurman in caucus last night that it is the duty of the people's representatives to refuse to appropriate the people's money except upon such conditions as will secure all the people equal rights before the law, was quoted to-day and complimented by Democrats in discussing the situation.

THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS AMENDMENTS.
The following is the substance of the amendments which the Democrats in caucus have agreed to incorporate into the legislative, judicial, and executive appropriation bill: 1st. The repeal of sections 820 and 821 of the Revised Statutes, in regard to requiring the test-oath of Federal jurors. 2d. The repeal of from section 2,011 to 2,061 of the Revised Statutes, inclusive. This relates to the appointment and the duties and privileges of supervisors of elections and deputy marshals, and the caucus meant to abolish these election scourges. Mr. Thurman's amendment in regard to the selection of jurors for Federal courts modifies section 800, so that the clerk shall select one-half of the names to be put into a box and a commissioner appointed by the court and belonging to a different political party from the clerk the other half—the whole number not to be less than 200, and from these are to be drawn the grand and petit jurors.

ROBERT HALE SERVES A NOTICE ON THE DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS.
This afternoon, at a quarter to 4 o'clock, Eugene Hale, in a speech on the consolidation of the land surveys, gave notice that the Republicans intend to resist to the last extremity, and even at the risk of an extra session, the adding to the appropriation bills of an amendment repealing the election laws. As to the repeal of the jurors' test-oath they cared but little, because it is now, practically, a dead letter, he said. The Democrats remained as cool as if they had no such intention.

THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL—VIRGINIA MUST LOOK TO THE SENATE.
Senators Withers and Johnston will urge increased appropriations to the James and other important rivers of Virginia when the river and harbor bill reaches the Senate. Mr. Cabell was at the Senate to-day working in advance in behalf of the river bill of his district. Like Mr. Cabell, Messrs. Goode, Huston, Walker, and the other Virginia members with navigable rivers in their districts, went before the House Committee on Commerce and saw members of the committee privately in behalf of liberal appropriations, but an unwise economy prevailed, and they could not get what they wanted.

PERSONAL NEWS ITEMS.
The bar-to-day passed appropriate resolutions in regard to the late Judge Casey, of the Court of Claims. He was a Marylander, and once served in Congress. Major-General Miller is here, aiding a project to civilize the Indians. Poor Indians! P. T. Barnum and General Grant are among the purchasers of a famous Colorado cattle ranch, and runners who go from Washington to visit

Arlington are swindled by the three-card monte game. Mrs. Senator Johnston arrived to-night. Colonel Robert Beverly left here this evening.

THE BRAZILIAN STEAMSHIP SUBSIDY.
The Senate Committee on Appropriations this morning agreed to add to the post-office appropriation bill a section authorizing contracts to be made for semi-monthly steamship mail service between the United States and Brazil by two lines—one from New York via Norfolk, and the other from New Orleans via Galveston, each to receive a compensation not exceeding \$100,000 per annum.

THURSDAY PROMISES TO BE A BUSY DAY.
The legislative appropriation bill will not be finished by Thursday, and the Appropriation Committee will claim precedence for it; and yet the sugar tariff is fixed for that day. Then, Judge Harris, of Virginia, has given notice that he will on Thursday call up the report from the House Election Committee seating Finley (Democrat) in place of Bisbee, the sitting Republican member from Florida. While the Democrats are almost a unit in favor of the report, my opinion is that the effort of the Republicans for delay will be successful.

THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE VARIOUS SURVEYS.
The consolidation of the Government surveys under the Interior Department, as proposed in the legislative appropriation bill, has monopolized most of the general debate on that bill so far. It is claimed that by doing away with the surveys of which Messrs. Hayden, Powell, and Wheeler now have charge, and the abolition of the surveyors-general, money will be saved and more accurate and uniform results reached. It is generally understood that if Congress adopts the recommendation of the committee Mr. Clarence King will be put at the head of the consolidated surveys at a salary of \$6,000 per annum. He is a friend of Secretary Schurz, who will control the appointment.

UP TO HALT-PAST 1 SENATORS WRESTLED WITH THE CALENDAR AND DISCUSSED UNIMPORTANT BILLS AND PRIVATE CLAIMS. From that hour until adjournment (after 4) the Library scheme was discussed, the competing propositions being to locate it on Judiciary Square, or on a lot east of the Capitol near B street. Mr. Conkling felt easy enough in mind and body to participate in the debate.

VIRGINIA'S CATTLE TRADE WITH ENGLAND.
Colonel Robert Beverly called on the British Minister, Sir Edward Thornton, to-day, in relation to our cattle trade with Great Britain. He has no official information that it has been stopped, and does not think the Government will do so.

SENATOR JOHNSTON.
Senator Johnston has been sitting up to-day, and will be out in a few days. His appetite is good, and he sleeps well. To-night he discussed the tobacco bill and the James River railroad with Messrs. Cabell, Tucker, and others.

THE INDIANS AS CITIZENS.
The bill reported from the Senate Territorial Committee to-day makes the Indians in Indian Territory citizens, and gives them a delegate in Congress. It establishes for them the inestimable boon of a United States court, and in effect opens the Territory to settlers.

BRIEF NEWS ITEMS.
The Republican senators held a caucus to-day and discussed the action of the Democratic caucus and the amendments to be proposed to the appropriation bills. Report is that they were not as defiant as Hale & Co.

A Baltimore delegation was here to-day, and made an argument before the House Committee on Public Buildings in favor of a new post-office building for that city.

The Potter committee will get through this week, and then for two reports.

The Senate Commerce Committee at its session to-night discussed the House interest-commerce bill.

SENATOR WALLACE WILL MAKE A MOST energetic, efficient, and successful chairman of the National Democratic Committee.

Senator Shields left his mileage and pay on his desk (\$400), and did not miss it until a page carried it to his room.

The Department has learned of the death of Postmaster Sullivan, of Harrisburg, Pa.

The weather has been rainy and gloomy to-day.

It has been resolved to call a colored men's national convention at Nashville May 6th.

THE HOUSE SAT UNTIL 5 THIS AFTERNOON.
[Associated Press Reports by telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CAUCUS OF REPUBLICAN SENATORS.
WASHINGTON, February 11.—A caucus of Republican senators was held to-day. The supposed nature of the call was to secure the assignment of some early date for action upon the Civil Rights bill. The contest from South Carolina was not reached.

There was no informal discussion as to what course should be pursued in the case of amendments providing for the repeal of the Federal supervisors and the test-oath laws being attached by the House to the appropriation bill. Although no action was taken, the general tenor of the opinions expressed was to the effect that any effort to enact such legislation upon an appropriation bill should be resisted, even to the extent of causing the bill to fail.

Forty-fifth Congress—First Session.
WASHINGTON, February 11, 1879.

Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, from the Committee on Finance, reported, without amendment, Senate bill authorizing the creation of national gold banks. Placed on the calendar. He also reported from the same committee, without amendment, Senate bill to amend sections 1517 and 1518 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, relative to deposit of bonds. Placed on the calendar.

These are two bills introduced by Mr. Morrill yesterday.

Mr. Dorsey, of Arkansas, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported back the post-office appropriation bill, with various amendments. Placed on the calendar. He also reported from the same committee an amendment to the bill submitted by Mr. Ferry from the Committee on Post Offices and Post-Roads some days ago, providing for the reclassification of the mails, and the readjustment of compensation to railroads for transportation of mails; substantially the same provisions as were agreed upon in the post-office bill of last year, which bill failed to become a law on account of the Brazilian mail subsidy and other objectionable amendments thereto. In submitting the report, Mr. Dorsey said the committee would not oppose the amendment if it should be urged by the Committee on Post Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Ferry said the committee had instructed him to submit the amendment and he would urge its passage.

Mr. Sargent, of California, submitted a resolution requesting the Secretary of State to furnish the Senate with information in possession of that Department, or that could be obtained through the consular service, relative to the methods of the production of various kinds of fermented and alcoholic liquors imported into the United States; also the laws and customs of the trade in force and prevailing at various places; affecting the purity of such liquors and genuineness of labels and marks designating them. He also submitted a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish similar information, and said as the object of these resolutions was to ascertain whether we received any pure wines he hoped the Committee on Finance would give the subject early attention.

Mr. Conkling, referring to the last resolution, said it was not usual to "request" a Cabinet officer to furnish information to the Senate, but to "direct" him to do so.

The resolution was amended as suggested, and then referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Kernan, of New York, introduced a bill to authorize the President to appoint George Foster Robinson to be paymaster in the United States Army. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. Robinson is the man who defended Secretary Seward from the assassin Payne.

The Senate to-day considered the bill for the removal of the political disabilities of A. W. Wall, F. E. Sheperd, C. B. Almer, D. M. W. Nash, Henry G. Thomas, Charles F. M. Spotswood, John D. Simms, C. H. B. Sinclair, and W. B. L. Page, all of Virginia, and others.

A joint resolution providing for a commission to consider and report what legislation is needed for the better regulation of commerce between the States was submitted and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The postal appropriation bill, with sundry amendments, was reported back to the committee and placed on the calendar.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill for the creation of a library building on Judiciary Square.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
In the House to-day majority and minority reports were submitted on the Florida contested-election bill of Finley vs. Bisbee, and laid on the table for further action. The majority report is in favor of Finley, and is signed by all the Democratic members of the committee except Turner, of Pennsylvania, who joins the Republicans in their report in favor of Bisbee.

The House went in Committee of the Whole on the legislative, judicial, and executive appropriation bill. After a protracted discussion the bill was considered by paragraphs for amendment, and after making some progress the committee rose.

Mr. Reagan, of Texas, chairman of the Committee on Commerce, reported the river and harbor appropriation bill, which was ordered to be printed and recommitted.

SIX MEN KILLED BY CAVING EARTH.
ST. LOUIS, February 11.—A Kansas City dispatch says: "A terrible accident occurred this morning at the foot of Grand avenue in a cut which is being made for the Chicago and Alton railroad. A great part of the cut, which is almost perpendicular walls nearly feet high, caved in, and buried the workmen and their teams under 6,000 yards of falling earth. There were four teams in the cut at the time, and ten men working at each team. Besides these, there were the foreman (James McCarthy), his clerk, and two other men. The contractor, Mr. W. S. Soden, the contractor, was not in the cut. Six persons were killed outright and several wounded. The following are the killed: Peter Bagley, James Egan, Thomas Casey, Ed. Hines, Dan. Luetite, and Richard Kine. All the bodies have been recovered. The scene is heartrending."

RESEMBLED TO-DAY, after the recess of ten days. General Roger A. Pryor, legal representative of the Tennessee bondholders, arrived this morning from New York to renew the offer of the bondholders to compromise the State debt by a reduction of 40 per cent of the principal, or a reduction of interest. He claims that those who represent are in no way interested in the suits against the railroads brought by one of the State's creditors to force a supposed lien on railroad property in favor of the creditors. Mr. Pryor will remain during the present week.

A STEAMSHIP IN DISTRESS.
NEW YORK, February 11.—The steamship Canina, which arrived to-day from Bermuda, reports, February 10, that three hours after leaving the island the steamship Castlewood, from Charleston for Royal, with the loss of her propeller; towed her, after much difficulty, owing to the high sea running, into Bermuda, arriving there at 11 A. M. on the 7th instant.

OBITUARY.
SAN FRANCISCO, February 11.—George W. Gift, editor of the Napa Reporter and captain in the Confederate navy during the war of 1861-62, died at Napa, Cal., of pneumonia, at the age of 72.

NORWICH, CONN., February 11.—Captain W. Coit, aged eighty-one, one of the oldest steamboat captains in the United States, is dead.

ARKANSAS.
LITTLE ROCK, February 11.—After a debate occupying nearly all day, Representative Fishback's resolution proposing a constitutional amendment repudiating the Hartford Convention, passed in the House by a vote of 59 to 15. Seventeen members were absent.

ENGLAND.
LIVERPOOL, February 11.—The order of the Privy Council adopted yesterday, revoking after March 3, 1879, article 13 of the foreign animals order so far as it relates to the United States, was a great surprise to the trade here. All cattle from the United States, March 3d, will have to be slaughtered in abattoirs now being prepared on Dock estates of Birkenhead and Liverpool within ten days after landing.

CABINET COUNCIL TO CONSIDER THE RECENT REVERSES OF THE BRITISH TROOPS.
LONDON, February 11.—Summons were issued this morning for the Cabinet Council to be held this afternoon to deliberate on the reverses to the British troops in Zululand. Officers and soldiers, amounting to a detachment of 1,000 men, were killed at 12:30 o'clock this morning, substantially confirming the details of the affair heretofore given in these dispatches. The news of the defeat caused a sensation throughout London.

THE LIVERPOOL LABOR TROUBLES, &c.
LIVERPOOL, February 11.—The steamship-owners have appointed a committee to enter with the delegates appointed at yesterday's meeting of the strikers. Much firmness is manifested on both sides.

The City of Brussels is ready for sea, and will sail this afternoon. Owing to the delay in the arrival of the Celtic, the White Star Company has chartered the Celtic to enter with the delegates appointed at yesterday's meeting of the strikers. The latter will sail for New York on Thursday.

LATER.—A committee of the steamship owners had an interview to-day with a delegation from the strikers, and after hearing the latter's statement decided to adhere to their own terms. The strike, therefore, continues, but many of the strikers are yielding. No steamer of the National Line will sail for New York to-morrow.

THE RECENT DISASTER TO BRITISH TROOPS IN SOUTH AFRICA.
LONDON, February 11.—The Times, commenting on the news from Capetown, says: "Nothing can exceed the frankness of the report, for it is clear that nothing has been held back. The news is a formidable event, and the gravity of the disaster is not, as was feared, exaggerated. Whether there was, or was not, any want of vigilance on the part of our own force, it is clear that the Zulus are even more formidable than our military authorities expected them to be. It was known that they were well drilled; that they were expert in the use of the rifle; that they were brave and that they would fight courageously. We now know too well how large a force they can mass at one point. Sad as the loss of our troops is, still graver is the peril which must arise with defeat. The Zulus will be emboldened, and the colonists be exposed to fresh and more formidable attacks. Under the circumstances the duty of the Government cannot admit of the slightest doubt, and it is to send ample reinforcements to the Cape without the needless delay of a single hour. It may be that they can be more quickly sent from Mauritius or India than from England; but the Zulus are not to be trifled with. The Zulus will be emboldened, and the colonists be exposed to fresh and more formidable attacks. Under the circumstances the duty of the Government cannot admit of the slightest doubt, and it is to send ample reinforcements to the Cape without the needless delay of a single hour. It may be that they can be more quickly sent from Mauritius or India than from England; but the Zulus are not to be trifled with. The Zulus will be emboldened, and the colonists be exposed to fresh and more formidable attacks. 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